ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

REFORMATORY SCHOOL

AT

YERAVDA

FOR THE

YEAR 1909.

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From

N. M. PAJNIGAR, Esquire, B.A.,
Superintendent, Yerávda Reformatory School;

To

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Yerávda Reformatory School,
5th February 1910.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Yerávda Reformatory School for the year ending 31st December 1909.

Number in School.

2. (*a*) On the 1st day of January 1909 there were 179 boys under sentence of detention, of whom 150 were in the Reformatory and 29 were serving out on license. Fifty-nine boys were admitted during the year and 8 escaped boys were re-captured, of whom 1 belonged to the preceding year. The number of boys discharged on expiration of sentence was 34 and of those discharged by order of Government for having attained the age of 18 years or on other grounds was 7. Two boys were restored to their parents on furnishing security. One boy was released on appeal by the order of the High Court of Bombay and one was transferred to the Chingleput Reformatory as he belonged to the Madras Presidency. Twelve boys escaped (*vide infra*, paragraph 4), so that the number of boys undergoing detention on the last day of the year was 189, and of these 25 were serving out on license. The average daily number for the year was 155·2 against 152 for the preceding year.

(*b*) Of the above 189 boys 7 were under twelve years of age, 46 under fourteen, 94 under sixteen and 42 of or over sixteen years.

(*c*) Eighty-three out of the 189 boys were Other Hindus, 41 were Low-castes, 56 Mahomedans, 5 Bráhmans and 4 Christians.

(*d*) Sixty-eight of the 189 boys spoke Maráthi, 49 Gujaráti, 43 Hindustáni, 12 Sindhi, 16 either Kánari, Telugu or Tamil and 1 English.

(*e*) Of the 189 boys 178 belonged to British Territory and the remaining 11 to the Nizam's Territory.

Admissions.

3. (*a*) Of the 59 boys admitted in the year 3 were eleven years, 11 twelve, 14 thirteen, 21 fourteen and 10 fifteen years old.

(*b*) Of the 59 admissions 47 had been convicted of theft, 8 of house-breaking and the remainders of such offences as possession and delivery of counterfeit coins, giving false evidence or inability to give security for good behaviour. The maximum value of stolen property in the 47 cases of theft was Rs. 571. Among other amounts there was one of Rs. 500, 4 of more than Rs. 100, 19 of under Rs. 100 and over Rs. 10, and 22 of Rs. 10 or under.

(*c*) Twenty boys were sentenced to undergo detention for three years, 1 for three years and a half, 22 for four, 11 for five, 4 for six and 1 for seven years.

(*d*) Of the 59 boys 16 were from the city of Bombay, 9 from Poona, 5 from Násik, 5 from West Khándesh, 4 each from Sholápur, Belgaum and

Secunderabad, 3 from Karáchi, 2 each from Ahmedabad and Ahmednagar, and 1 each from Sátára, Thána, Surat, Broach and Bellary.

(*e*) Three of the newly admitted boys had been convicted thrice previously, 5 twice and 17 once.

(*f*) Forty-nine boys out of the 59 were totally illiterate and the rest could read and write their vernacular.

Conduct and Punishment.

4. The behaviour of the boys was quite as satisfactory as in previous years. The total number of offences for the year was 19 and few of them were serious, being mainly breaches of School Rules, assaults on one another or rude and insolent behaviour to subordinate members of the establishment. Eleven licensed boys abused their liberty by escaping from their employers and 1 escaped from the Reformatory. The latter and 7 out of the former were re-captured. The punishments dealt out were flogging as an extreme measure, of which there were only two during the year, and caning on hand, temporary forfeiture of marks or stoppage of interviews with relations.

Discharged Juveniles.

5. (*a*) Of the 44 boys discharged in the course of the year 14 had learnt gardening, 8 carpentry, 6 smithy, 12 book-binding and type-setting and 4 painting and varnishing. Reports have been received of 43 boys out of the 44 discharged, shewing that 10 of them are occupied in the trades learnt by them (3 in agriculture, 1 in carpentry, 4 in painting, 2 as compositors), 17 have reverted to their family occupations as labourers, mill-hands, domestic servants, etc., 1 is attending a school, 9 are residing with their parents, 2 died and 4 cannot be traced.

(*b*) In the statement "Reformatory Schools, II," appended to this report, similar information is furnished with regard to the youths discharged in the three years preceding the year of report. The total number of boys discharged during the period is 95, of which number only 1 remains unreported. Out of the 94 boys about whom reports have been received 12 cannot be traced, 3 died, 2 were re-convicted, 29 are following the trades learnt by them, 45 are engaged in other industries and 3 are living with and assisting their parents. Thus 84·6 per cent. of the boys are maintaining themselves by honest labour while about 13·2 per cent. are untraceable. It will be admitted that such a high percentage of boys maintaining themselves by honest labour shews that the institution is fulfilling its object very successfully.

Licensed Juveniles.

6. (*a*) Twenty-nine boys were serving out on license on the 1st day of the year of report and 35 were sent out on new licenses during the year. Fifteen of the licensed boys were discharged owing to expiration of their sentence, 11 escaped and 13 were returned (8 having been found unsuitable by their employers, 1 on account of sickness, 3 on account of unsatisfactory conduct and 1 for having committed theft), thus leaving 25 boys out on license on the last day of the year. Three of them were engaged in compositor's work, 4 in blacksmith's, 4 in carpenter's, 10 in gardening, 3 as factory-boys and one as a motor-boy. One of the 25 boys has now been with his employer for over two years, 5 for over one year, 9 for more than six months, 6 for more than 3 months and the remaining 4 for less than 3 months.

(*b*) The system of entrusting selected boys with outside work was continued during the year with quite good result. About half a dozen boys are employed in this way and I have never had to find fault with any of them. Not only was no complaint against them received nor any irregularity noticed in them, but as a rule they were found to do their work more expeditiously and intelligently than some of the peons.

Marks and Gratuity.

7. The monthly average number of boys who earned gratuity by their good behaviour and diligence was 147 for the year under report against 147·2 for the preceding year. The total amount of gratuity earned during the year was Rs. 424-1-6 and the amount disbursed to discharged boys was Rs. 318-12-3 against Rs. 429 and Rs. 296-9-9 respectively in 1908, the average earning per boy being Rs. 7-3-11 and Rs. 8-0-3 for the two years respectively. The low average is due to the number of monitors having been small during the greater part of the year.

Health and Sanitation.

8. (*a*) The year under report was a good one in point of health. The number of sick boys treated in the School Hospital during the year was 30. Among these were 4 cases of ague, 2 of pneumonia and 2 of colic, the rest being minor ailments such as abscesses, scabies, ulcers, etc. The daily average number of sick boys in hospital was 1·7 against 2·4 of the previous year. The only serious cases during the year were those of pneumonia, both of which were discharged cured.

(*b*) In the month of April small-pox was prevalent in Poona and several cases having occurred in the neighbourhood all the members of the establishment with their families were vaccinated by the order of the Medical Officer. As regards the inmates, every one of them is vaccinated on his admission.

(*c*) Captain C. S. Lowson, I. M. S., Superintendent of the Yerávda Prison, superintended the work of the Civil Medical Assistant throughout the year and deserves special thanks for his interest in all things affecting the boys' welfare.

Buildings and Accommodation.

9. The present accommodation is for 160 boys and that is availed of fully throughout the year. In fact, during the year under report there was overcrowding from August to December. The usual repairs and white-washing of the existing buildings were duly and satisfactorily carried out by the Public Works Department. The remaining buildings under the revised scheme approved by Government to which reference was made in the last year's report could not be taken in hand owing to the plans and estimates being not completed, but it is hoped to begin them early in the ensuing financial year.

Diet and Clothing.

10. No change was found necessary in this head as the food and dress prescribed for the inmates are most suitable and adequate.

Industries.

11. (*a*) The boys here are taught gardening, carpentry, smithy, painting and varnishing and book-binding, each boy in school receiving instruction in any one of them for 4 hours daily. The total number of books bound and repaired during the year was 35,830 and that of carriages done up 97. The gross value of manufactured articles for the year was Rs. 3,960-8-9 against Rs. 4,562-15-3 for that of the preceding year. Most of the books were bound at wholesale rates for the city presses and the repairs to carriages were in very many cases of a petty nature: hence, although numerically the work of the year appears to have been more than that of the preceding year, the pecuniary gain therefrom was a great deal less. Deducting the cost of raw materials, Rs. 2,858-3-10 and the amount on account of depreciation of tools and plant Rs. 188-3-6, the net earning for the year was Rs. 914-1-5 against Rs. 1,134-15-10 for the foregone year. The total number of boys engaged in the several trades was 115, of whom 38 were practising carpentry, 12 blacksmith's art, 24 painting and polishing and 41 book-binding.

(*b*) The value of agricultural produce for the year was Rs. 1,136-4-8. This depends altogether on the rainfall, so that when there is good rain at the end of the monsoon the tanks in the farm are well filled and the water lasts from 5 to 6 months, thus enabling farm work to be carried on for a longer time than when the general rainfall is short or the late rains are not abundant. The monsoon preceding the year of report having been favourable the produce of the farm increased and so did its value. The expenditure incurred on account of fodder for the bullocks, seeds, etc., amounted to Rs. 345-3-1. The net gain in this department was Rs. 791-1-7 against last year's Rs. 768-7-10. The number of boys engaged in gardening was 49, of whom 14 were also learning horticulture. The total net receipts from all industries amounted to Rs. 1,705-3-0 against Rs. 1,903-6-8 last year.

(*c*) At the Flower Show of the Agri-Horticultural Society held on 10th September last this School exhibited as usual cut flowers, flowering plants and vegetables and got prizes of the total value of Rs. 20. The chrysanthemums and chillies received special commendation. Flowers from the School garden were also sent to the Sir David Sassoon Hospital several times during the season for the patients.

Maintenance Charges.

12. The gross maintenance charges for the year amounted to Rs. 21,689-11-3 against Rs. 23,197-12-11 for the preceding year. The excess of expenditure in the latter year was due to the following reasons:—purchase of 20 sets of carpenter's tools costing Rs. 240, aluminium cooking pots worth Rs. 89-8, two farm-bullocks at the cost of Rs. 175, and blankets for the boys worth Rs. 563-8. At the same time some items of expenditure on clothing and bedding amounting to Rs. 200 incurred in the year under report are not included in the accounts, the bills having remained unpaid till the close of the year. These will have to go into the accounts of the current year. Deducting from the above amount Rs. 1,705-3 on account of profits for the year, Rs. 1,701-4-2 on account of contributions due from Native States for juveniles belonging to their territories and Rs. 83-3-6 realized under miscellaneous receipts, the net cost to Government for maintaining this institution for the year 1909 amounts to Rs. 18,200-0-7.

Establishment.

13. There was no change in the strength of the School establishment during the year, and the only change in the staff was that of the Head Master who was transferred to a Local Board School, a new Head Master being appointed in his place.

Education.

14. (*a*) The system of education remained the same as has been in force for the past five years and described in previous reports.

(*b*) The School was examined by the Deputy Educational Inspector, Poona, on 30th July, and the results were good. Out of the 74 students examined in Standards I to V, 60, *i. e.*, 81 per cent., passed in all heads, and in the Beginners' Class of 60 boys all were advanced. The work of the teachers was found good and the boys' behaviour under examination also good.

(*c*) Eight boys were sent up for the 1st Grade Art Examination of the Sir Jamsetji Jijibhai School of Art, of whom 6 came out successful and were awarded certificates.

(*d*) It gives me great pleasure to mention here that two big baskets of sweetmeats were sent by the promoters of the Jain Conference held in Poona in the month of May last for distribution among the inmates of this institution and the boys enjoyed the treat, with hearty wishes and prayers for the success of the Jain Conference.

Exercise and Recreation.

15. The usual games, such as cricket, football, *átyápátyá*, etc., were kept up with great zest and good spirit. Gymnastics and drill had their regular turns and walks and sight-seeings on holidays were allowed to the boys on important holidays as well as Sundays.

Visiting Committee.

16. The monthly inspection of the School by the members of the Visiting Committee took place regularly each month during the year. In addition to these regular visits, there was the annual general meeting of all visitors held in the mouth of March and several visits in the course of the year by yourself, the Educational Inspector, C. D., and Captain Lowson, I. M. S., Superintendent, Yerávda Central Prison, in the capacity of Medical Officer, one by Major J. Jackson, M.B., I. M. S., Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, and one by the Inspector-General of Prisons, Baroda State, with an extract from whose remarks I beg to conclude this brief record :—

> "Visited the Reformatory and was shewn round by the Superintendent. Found everything in the most excellent order and the boys very well cared for."

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

N. M. PAJNIGAR,

Superintendent, Yerávda Reformatory School.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS, I.

Number in the School in 1909.

Schools	1
Pupils.	
Number on the first day of the year	179
Admitted during the year	59
Re-captured during the year	8
Discharged during the year	44
Transferred during the year	1
Escaped during the year	12
Number on the last day of the year	189
Education on admission.	
Able to read	30
Illiterate	159
Religion.	
Hindus	129
Mahomedans	56
Christians	4
Instruction.	
Taught agriculture	62
Taught other industries	127
	Rs. a. p.
Net expenditure	18,200 0 7

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS, II.

After-conduct of boys discharged during the three years preceding the year of report.

1. Total number discharged in the three years	95
2. Number discharged who were taught agriculture	36
3. Number in entry (2) occupied in agriculture	8
4. Number who were taught other trades and handicrafts	59
5. Number in entry (4) occupied in the trades and handicrafts taught them	21
6. Occupied in industries not taught them at School	45
7. Unemployed or with friends	3
8. Re-convicted	2
9. Died	3
10. Not known or not reported on	13

N. M. PAJNIGAR,
Superintendent, Yerávda Reformatory School.

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Administration Reports.—
Yeravda Reformatory School.
Annual Report on the — for the year 1909.

Educational Department.
No. 874

Bombay Castle,
11th May 1910.

Letter from the Director of Public Instruction, No. 14276, dated 31st March 1910:—

"I have the honour to submit the report on the Yeravda Reformatory School for the year 1909, which was considered and approved at a meeting of the Visiting Committee held on March 29th.

"2. The general health and conduct of the boys during the year were good, and the results of the annual examination reflected credit on the teaching staff. The boys licensed to employers, however, do not seem to have been so satisfactory as in some former years: 11 escaped (7 being recaptured) and 12 were returned as unsuitable or unsatisfactory, making 23 out of 64, or 36 per cent. of the whole number lincensed out.

"3. Last year Government commented on the number of released boys whose after-career remained untraced, namely, 36 out of 94 discharged in three years; and fresh orders* were issued in order to secure greater vigilance in supervising and reporting on the discharged boys. In the present report the number 'not known or not reported on' has been reduced to 13 out of 95 discharged in three years. In the year actually under report 44 boys were discharged, out of whom only 1 remains unreported and 4 cannot be traced. The 1 unreported belonged to Baluchistan, and though both the Deputy Educational Inspector and the Political Agent at Quetta have been addressed, no reply has been received. Of the 4 remaining untraced, 2 belonged to Bombay, 1 to Broach, and 1 to Bijapur. The last is not to be found at Kankal, his village; the Broach boy is reported to have left that place with his sister, who ran away with a Mahomedan and cannot be traced; the 2 Bombay boys cannot be found by the Head Masters responsible for them at the addresses given."

RESOLUTION.—Except in respect of the licensing-out system, the administration of the school was satisfactory.

2. Of the 64 boys licensed to private employers, 11 ran way and 12 were returned as unsuitable. These figures indicate that greater care should be exercised both with reference to the boys selected for outside employment and also with reference to the persons to whom they are licensed. The system is of great importance for the successful working of the institution and its operation should be carefully watched.

3. It is satisfactory that so few discharged boys have remained untraced.

L. ROBERTSON,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Director of Public Instruction,
The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
The Judicial Commissioner in Sind,
The Political Resident, Aden,
All District Judges,
All District Magistrates,
The Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay,
The Inspector General of Police,
The Commissioner of Police, Bombay,
The Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay,
The Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay,
The Inspector General of Prisons,
The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison,
The Superintendent, Yeravda Reformatory School,
} With copies of the Report.

* *Vide* Government Resolution No. 1978, dated 6th October 1909.

[*P. T. O.*

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The Superintendent of His Majesty's Common Prison, Bombay,
The Superintendent of His Majesty's House of Correction, Bombay,
The Compiler of the General Administration Report,
The Judicial Department,
The Public Works Department,
The Registrar of His Majesty's High Court of Judicature, Appellate Side, Bombay,
The Prothonotary and Registrar of His Majesty's High Court of Judicature, Original Side, Bombay,
The Government of India,
The Under Secretary of State for India,

} With copies of the Report.

} by letter.

The Superintendent, Government Central Press
(with a request that copies of the Report with the Government Resolution may be furnished at an early date),
The Oriental Translator to Government,
The Editors' Tables and the Editors of Newspapers.